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SERIAL NO.: **10/586,414**

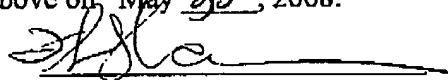
FILING DATE: **July 19, 2006**

ART UNIT: **1752**

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Florence S. Chamoures**IMPORTANT**

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:

Rustom S. Kanga

Docket No.: 2156-301A

Serial No.: 10/586,414

Examiner: C. Hamilton

Filing Date: July 19, 2006

Art Unit: 1752

Title: **Photosensitive Printing Sleeves and Method of Forming the Same**

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

APPEAL BRIEF UNDER 37 C.F.R. SECTION 41.37

Applicant filed a Notice of Appeal from the last decision of the Examiner on April 1, 2008. Applicant submits herein an Appeal Brief for the above captioned application pursuant to 37 C.F.R. Section 41.37.

Please charge Deposit Account No. 50-0447 in the amount of \$510, plus any deficiencies for the filing of the Appeal Brief.

1. Real Party in Interest:

The owner of record of the application under appeal and the real party in interest is MacDermid Printing Solutions, LLC., a corporation of Connecticut, as a result of an assignment dated July 10, 2006, which has been recorded at the U.S.P.T.O. at Reel 018330, Frame 0683.

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2. Related Appeals and Interferences:

There are no related appeals, interferences, or judicial proceedings known to Appellant, Appellants' legal representative or Assignee.

3. Status of Claims:

Claims 1-5: Canceled
Claims 6-10: Pending
Claim 11: Canceled
Claims 12-25: Pending
Claim 26: Canceled

Thus, claims 6-10 and 12-25 are currently pending and are subject of the instant appeal.

All of the pending claims 6-10 and 12-25 have been and are finally rejected. A copy of pending claims 6-10 and 12-25 is provided in the Claim Appendix.

4. Status of Amendments:

All claim amendments have been entered. The claims were last amended on September 20, 2007 and the amendments were entered.

5. Summary of the Claimed Subject Matter:

The invention is directed generally to a method of making a hollow cylindrical printing sleeve to improve image fidelity and character geometry of the relief image formed on the arcuate surface of the cylindrical printing sleeve.

More specifically, the invention is directed to pending independent claim 6:

A method of making a hollow cylindrical printing sleeve, the method comprising:

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- a) providing a photosensitive printing element comprising:
 - i) a hollow cylindrical support layer, the hollow cylindrical support layer comprising an actinic radiation absorbing compound uniformly distributed throughout;
 - ii) at least one layer of photopolymerizable material deposited on the hollow cylindrical support layer; and
 - iii) a masking layer on top of the at least one layer of photopolymerizable material that absorbs radiation at a wavelength used to polymerize the layer of photopolymerizable material;
- b) removing portions of the masking layer by exposing the masking layer to laser radiation at a selected wavelength and power;
- c) exposing the layer of photopolymerizable material to actinic radiation through the hollow cylindrical support layer to create a floor layer of polymerized material;
- d) exposing the surface of the cylindrical sleeve to at least one source of actinic radiation to polymerize the portions of the layer of photopolymerizable material revealed during laser ablation of the masking layer, wherein the at least one source of actinic radiation comprises one or more collimated sources of actinic radiation; and
- e) developing the photosensitive printing element to remove the masking layer and the unpolymerized portions of the layer of photopolymerizable material to create a relief image on the surface of the photosensitive printing element;

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wherein light rays emanating from the at least one source of actinic radiation strike the photosensitive printing element at an angle that is substantially perpendicular to the surface of the photosensitive printing element at the point of impact.

(See generally specification at page 4, lines 6-25, page 7, lines 14-17 and page 11, lines 4-6)

Support for dependent claims 7-10 and 12-15 can be found in the specification as follows:

Claim 7 (see page 7, lines 1-2)

Claim 8 (see page 7, lines 7-20)

Claim 9 (see page 8, lines 24-26)

Claim 10 (see page 8, lines 26-28)

Claim 12 (see page 10, lines 20-23)

Claim 13 (see page 11, lines 11-18)

Claim 14 (see page 10, lines 27-30)

Claim 15 (see page 11, lines 11-18)

The invention is also directed to pending independent claim 16:

A method of making a hollow cylindrical printing sleeve, the method comprising:

- a) providing a cylindrical photosensitive printing element comprising:
 - i) a hollow cylindrical support layer;
 - ii) at least one layer of photopolymerizable material deposited on the hollow cylindrical support layer; and

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- iii) a masking layer on top of the at least one layer of photopolymerizable material that absorbs radiation at a wavelengths used to polymerize the layer of photopolymerizable material;
- b) removing portions of the masking layer by exposing the masking layer to laser radiation at a selected wavelength and power;
- c) exposing the surface of the cylindrical sleeve to at least one source of actinic radiation to polymerize the portions of the layer of photopolymerizable material revealed during selective laser removal of the masking layer; wherein the at least one source of actinic radiation comprises one or more collimated sources of actinic radiation;
- d) developing the photosensitive printing element to remove the masking layer and the unpolymerized portions of the layer of photopolymerizable material to create a relief image on the surface of the photosensitive printing element;

wherein light rays emanating from the at least one source of actinic radiation strike the photosensitive printing element at an angle that is substantially perpendicular to the surface of the photosensitive printing element at the point of impact.

(See generally specification at page 4, lines 6-25, page 7, lines 14-17 and page 11, lines 4-6)

Support for dependent claims 17-25 can be found in the specification as follows:

Claim 17 (see page 4, lines 6-25)

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Enclosed please find the following items regarding the above referenced patent application:

- Appeal Brief Under 37 C.F.R. Section 41.37 (32 Sheets)

Respectfully submitted,

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